

## MAYOR HAILS UNITED NATIONS WOMEN FOR EMPOWERING BLOUBERG WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS WITH BUSINESS SKILLS THROUGH ITS ENTREPRENHER PROGRAMME

As the country continues commemorating the Women's Month, the UN Women in partnership with Blouberg Local Municipality municipality and Venetia Mine celebrated Blouberg women entrepreneurs in Senwabarwana.

Various women have benefited from UN Women programme, INTREPRENHER implemented in the municipality for the past three years. The business trainings were offered to equip women in business with skills for the day-to-day running of their businesses, marketing and growth.

Blouberg Local Municipality Mayor, Her Worship Cllr Maria Thamaga expressed heartfelt appreciation to the United Nations Women for equipping Blouberg women with entrepreneurial skills.

"One of our responsibilities as the municipality is to create a good environment for local economic development.

We are happy with partnership that we have with UN Women and Venetia mine. The ENTREPRENHER programme has done a good job. The doors of opportunities have been opened".

The graduation ceremony for the successful participants took place last year.

Today, the UN Women management and the municipality visited business and stalls of some of the beneficiaries. The municipality and UN Women's partnership was entered into in 2018. So far, hundreds of women entrepreneurs have been trained in general business management such as costing and records keeping. Mayor Thamaga indicated that the municipality is also playing its part to ensure that these entrepreneurs succeed by linking them with funders.

" Almost five-hundred and eighty seven (587 )women have graduated from this programme. They were trained in general business management such as costing and bookkeeping. We have also linked these graduates with funders in order to expand and maximize profit. We really appreciate it. Let us grow this partnership because government alone cannot do it. We need Public-private partnership".

